

## Message Text

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12

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 200800Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4490

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 4407

NODIS

FOR MILLER FROM CHAPMAN

E.59. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA, US

SUBJECT: DATT

REF: STATE 143982

1. GENERAL ROUND HAS BEEN MOST RELUCTANT TO LEAVE AND VERY MUCH WANTED TO SEE THE CRISIS THROUGH. HIS SUPERIORS IN DOD AND CINCPAC, HOWEVER, AGREED WITH MY REASONING. NOW YOU QUESTION WHETHER HE SHOULD NOT REMAIN UNTIL MID-JULY. I THOUGHT DEPARTMENTS PRESENTED MONOLITHIC POSITIONS\*

2. THERE ARE IN MY MIND TWO ASPECTS TO PROBLEM:

A. UNDER THE STRICTURES ON THE TOTAL SIZE OF THE MISSION IMPOSED BY WASHINGTON, DATT MUST GO DOWN TO A TWO-MAN OFFICE - A LT. COL. WHO IS THE E&E OFFICER AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE NON-COM - WHO ARE ESSENTIAL. WE ARE REALLY DOWN TO COUNTING INDIVIDUAL BODIES.

B. THE PRUDENT, THOUGH NOT INEVITABLE, ASSUMPTION IS THAT WE SHALL FACE DIFFICULT DAYS JUST AHEAD. THIS IS THE REASON WHY I HAVE RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO DRASTIC REDUCTIONS DIRECTED BY WASHINGTON. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, I BELIEVE THE BEST WAY TO WEATHER THE STORM IS TO BECOME A SOMEWHAT LIMP MISSION. A CHARGE BUT  
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NO AMBASSADOR; A MILITARY ATTACHE BUT NO GENERAL; AN

INFORMATION OFFICER BUT NO PAO; NO USAID, OF COURSE.  
IN OTHER WORDS, THERE WOULD BE NO SENIOR OFFICER WHO  
HAD CLEAR RANK AND AUTHORITY IN HIS FIELD. MORE  
SPECIFICALLY, GENERAL ROUND WOULD NOT BE HERE TO BECOME  
TARGET OF PGNU'S POSSIBLE RESENTMENT OVER MAP CUT-OFF.

3. I NEVRTHELESS ADMIT THAT I SHALL MISS GENERAL  
ROUND WHO HAS SHOWN REMARKABLE STRENGTH, JUDGMENT AND  
COOLNESS THROUGHOUT THE TROUBLES. HOWEVER, AFTER  
DISCUSSING THE MATTER WITH HIM WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT  
WE HAVE THE NECESSARY FLEXIBILITY TO DO WHAT WE JUDGE  
BEST IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. HE HAS NOT TAKEN  
FORMAL LEAVE; HE IS UDORN; AND HE CAN, AT LEAST  
SO FAR, FLY BACK AND FORTH. THUS, WE ENVISAGE HIS  
COMING TO VIENTIANE AS MAY BE NECESSARY.  
CHAPMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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